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Attorney Docket No. 8013-1137-1  
PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

YAMADA et al.

Confirmation No. 9978

Serial No. 09/974,808

GROUP 2823

Filed October 12, 2001

Examiner William M. BREWSTER

OHMIC CONTACT PLUG HAVING AN IMPROVED CRACK FREE TIN BARRIER  
METAL IN A CONTACT HOLE AND METHOD OF FORMING THE SAME

**STATUS INQUIRY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please inform us of the status of the above-identified application. The application was filed on October 12, 2001 and was docketed on October 30, 2003 to the Examiner. Applicants respectfully inquire as to when a first Official Action may be expected in this application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By *Benoît Castel*

Benoît Castel, #35,041  
Attorney for Applicants  
745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Arlington, Virginia 22202  
Telephone: (703) 521-2297

BC/psf  
November 18, 2003